

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 and 12-18 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 16-18 are amended and claim 11 is canceled. No new matter is added. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 since the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance (for the reasons discussed herein); (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration (as the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution); (c) do not present any additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims; and (d) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-8 and 10-13 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gordon (U.S. Patent No. 6,184,856) in view of Hou (U.S. Patent No. 6,113,810); rejects claims 14-18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gordon in view of Hou and further in view of Comiskey (U.S. Patent No. 6,376,828); and rejects claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gordon in view of Hou and further in view of Shirochi (U.S. Patent No. 5,872,654). The §103(a) rejection as it pertains to canceled claim 11 is now moot. However, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections as they pertain to the remainder of the claims.

Specifically, Applicants assert that Gordon, Hou, Comiskey, and Shirochi, individually or in combination, fail to disclose an image display medium including at least a filter of plural colors, wherein the filter is divided into plural chromatic regions and plural achromatic regions, each of the achromatic regions being disposed between adjacent chromatic regions, as recited in independent claims 1 and 16-18.

Gordon, in col. 6, lines 11-13, merely discloses that the light transmissive fluids 12a, 12b, 12c in cells 14, 16, and 18, respectively, are separated by barriers 22. Moreover, Gordon, in col. 7, lines 57-62, discloses that the barriers 22 are *not* necessary and need only be impervious to pigment particles. Accordingly, Gordon fails to disclose a filter of plural colors, wherein the filter is divided into plural chromatic regions and plural achromatic regions, each of the achromatic regions being disposed between adjacent chromatic regions, as recited in independent claims 1 and 16-18.

Hou, Comiskey, and Shirochi also fail to disclose an image display medium including at least a filter of plural colors, wherein the filter is divided into plural chromatic regions and plural achromatic regions, each of the achromatic regions being disposed between adjacent chromatic regions, as recited in independent claims 1 and 16-18, and therefore, fail to make up for the deficiency of Gordon.

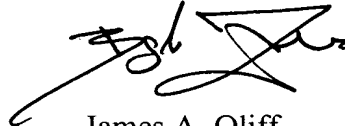
Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that Gordon, Hou, Comiskey, and Shirochi, individually or in combination, fail to disclose an image display medium including at least a filter of plural colors, wherein the filter is divided into plural chromatic regions and plural achromatic regions, each of the achromatic regions being disposed between adjacent chromatic regions, as recited in independent claims 1 and 16-18.

In accordance with the above remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1 and 16-18 define patentable subject matter. Claims 2-10 and 12-15 depend from claim 1, and therefore, also define patentable subject matter. Thus Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-10 and 12-18 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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